At the end of “The Silencing of Mary Dyer,” it says, in a rather campy and fully biased fashion, that her body hanged like a flag, inspiring people. We have to read into the author’s intention a hope that she inspired people to speak up for themselves, but we also have to wonder about people’s seeing her body would inspire them to do as they were told, which clearly would have been the Puritans’ intended message. You can either use the T-Chart below or a software application like ”Webspiration” or Googledocs’ “drawings” tool to map out reasons why people should or shouldn’t have followed the example set by Anne Hutchinson and Mary Dyer. Regardless of your choice, there’s also a prompt on the back that I’d like everyone to answer.

Be Like Anne and Mary Don’t Play With Anne and Mary

Although we broke up the debate into a “for” and “against” argument, did you think it’s that easy to define? Are there good reasons to see their lives either way? Both ways? A mix? Please spend a paragraph or two explaining what that tells us about judging people and their behavior?

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